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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN THE MATTER OF:

HORITA, et al

FILED: November 28, 2001

SERIAL NO. 09/994,932

FOR: OPTIMUM PICKUP DEVICE



DOCKET NO: MM4485

GROUP ART UNIT:

EXAMINER:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Arlington, VA 22313-1450  
MAIL STOP DD

SIR:

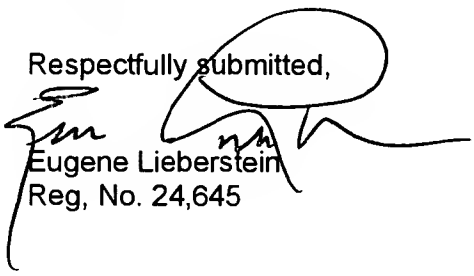
This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in accordance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97 before the issuance of a first Office Action. Any necessary fee should be deducted from Deposit Account No. 01-1944.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed to officially make of record the reference(s) cited in the attached PTO Form 1449. Copy(ies) of the(se) reference(s) is(are) also enclosed.

In accordance with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.97(e) the undersigned certifies that no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign application or, to my knowledge as the person signing this certification, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.


The person making this certification is the attorney who signs below on the basis of the information supplied by an individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c).

Respectfully submitted,

  
Eugene Lieberstein  
Reg. No. 24,645

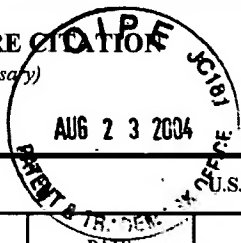
**MAILING CERTIFICATE**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed: Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, Mail Stop DD on August 19, 2004.

Signed: 

Dated August 19, 2004

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b> (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number (Optional) <b>MM4485</b>	Application Number <b>09/994,932</b>
	Applicant(s) <b>Masami HORITA, et al</b>	
	Filing Date <b>November 28, 2001</b>	Group Art Unit



**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
							YES	NO
		10-079128	03/24/98	Japan with English Abstract				
		07-031367		JP with English Translation				
		2-135918	11/13/90	Japan				

**OTHER DOCUMENTS** (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

		Japanese Office Action issued by the Japanese Patent Office in the basic Japanese Patent Application No. 2001-028720 citing the above references

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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**EXAMINER:** Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97

The applicants are aware of the following references.

- 1) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application No.10-079128  
English Abstract is attached to a copy thereof.
- 2) Japanese Utility Model Application No. 01-042545  
(corresponding to Japanese Laid-Open Utility Model  
Application No. 02-135918 and Examined Japanese  
Utility Model Application Publication No. 07-031367)  
Mechanical English translation of Examined Utility  
Model Application Publication No. 07-031367 prepared  
by the Japan Patent Office is attached to a copy  
thereof.

The references 1) and 2) are cited in an Office Action dated July 20, 2004, issued against the counterpart Japanese Patent Application No. 2001-028720.

It is believed that neither the reference 1) nor the reference 2) shows or suggests the subject matter of the present invention.